

UNIFORM VITA AND BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

PRISCILLA CONNORS, PHD, RD

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EDUCATION

Degree	Major	Institution
Ph.D.	Nutrition	Texas Woman's University Denton TX
M.B.A.	Management Information Systems	Binghamton University Binghamton, NY
B.S.	Nutrition & Dietetics	SUNY-Oneonta College Oneonta, NY
B.S.	Biology	Moravian College Bethlehem PA

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Teaching in my calling and dominates my workload. This focus has driven my interests over the years. I not only teach the basics of nutrition in health; I invest in building fact checking skills as an integral part of nutrition education. The growth of social media and ready availability of AI has challenged our assumptions about information accuracy and called for robust critical thinking strategies. As a member of the University of North Texas AI Steering Committee (2023-2024) I explored pathways for generative AI in higher education and how to best incorporate this tool into my classes. I recently (2023-2024) collaborated with UNT Division of Digital Strategy and Innovation in a research project that examined student perceptions of AI generated nutrition information.

In a news literacy project in which I collaborated with faculty at the Stanford History Education Group we assessed the effectiveness of training in factchecking in an online class. Results were published in *Misinformation Review*. Student engagement in lateral reading, or the practice of leaving a novel website to check alternate sources, improved after they completed the modules that we developed. In 2021 I was interviewed by Scripps National Media Networks on the importance of digital literacy and incorporating factchecking skills into teaching and learning in an online class.

I am an Associate Professor and Registered Dietitian (RD) at the University of North Texas with expertise in consumer food behaviors and nutrition education. I have experience in both clinical and community nutrition. My projects have been funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and National Dairy Council. I am experienced in survey research and field methods including observational studies, focus groups, and face-to-face interviews.

I am a Co-PI on a USDA funded project (2023-2027) concerning leadership in food and fiber industries to build leaders among first generation students from underrepresented groups. I was Principal Investigator (PI) on a NCBA grant (2023-2024) concerning main dishes and food waste in school meals. Results were presented at the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics 2024 Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo. Previously I directed a multidisciplinary team in a USDA (2010-2012) project concerning behavioral economics in school meals programs. Results were presented at Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior, School Nutrition Association, and National Nutrient Databank conferences, and published in the *Journal of Child Nutrition and Management* (2015).

As a member of a cross disciplinary team investigating personal aspects of health and fitness (2007-2010) I examined the food behaviors of middle school children and co-presented results at conferences of the American College of Sports Medicine (2009), Society for Sports Psychology (2009) and American Dietetic Association (2009). I also directed a longitudinal study that evaluated menu performance over a two-year period in a hospital setting and published results in the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association* (2004). In conjunction with the Texas Department of Human Resources I participated in a statewide audit of meals served at residential childcare institutions and evaluated menu compliance with federal standards. Findings were published in *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis* (2004).

In 2022 I was awarded a UNT Libraries OER (Open Educational Resources) grant to develop a series of student activities exploring plant-based nutrition in which students used generative AI to write essays. The resulting modules were integrated into my online classes and include an introductory ChatGPT activity that teaches effective prompt writing and strategies for validating results. As a member of Collaborative for UNT Online Faculty Fellows (CUFF) (2023-2024) I explored generative AI in learning to assess student trust in ChatGPT as a platform, perceptions of its usefulness in completing tasks, and intent to use again. An abstract detailing preliminary results was accepted for presentation at the 2024 American Nutrition Society Conference.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Begin/End	Position	Organization	Location
06/98-present	Associate Professor (Assistant 1998-2004) 60% teaching; 20% research; 20% service Teach 3 large enrollment classes per semester Advise and mentor graduate students Mentor Undergraduate Research Fellows Mentor MCURC Research Fellows Collaborate with UNT Dining Services University, college & department committees	University of North Texas	Denton, TX
8/97-5/98	Visiting Senior Lecturer Teach 3 courses with labs per semester Quantity foods, introductory food science, computers in foodservice	Texas Woman's University	Denton, TX
8/95-5/96	Graduate Teaching Assistant Manage food science and quantity foods labs	Texas Woman's University	Denton TX
8/91-5/94	Instructor Program coordinator foodservice management Teach 4 undergraduate courses per semester Advise student clubs	Lamar University	Beaumont, TX

Uniform Vita and Biographical Data Sheet, Priscilla Connors, PhD

8/86-5/91	Assistant Professor Teach 3 courses per semester National Restaurant Association Work-Study Grant Recipient 1989	Syracuse University	Syracuse, NY
8/96-5/06	Clinical Dietitian Nutrition medical therapy in a 225 bed acute care hospital	Presbyterian Hospital Denton	Denton, TX
8/83-6/86	School Nutrition Director Manage school meals operation with central kitchens and satellite feeding sites Meet USDA regulatory requirements	Sidney Central School	Sidney, NY
6/81-12/82	Cooperative Extension Agent 1982 State Communications Award, New York State Association of Home Economists	Extension Chenango County	Norwich, NY

EXTERNAL GRANTS FUNDED

Begin/End	Position and Title	Agency	Award
2023/2027	Co-Principal Investigator Title: Creating Transformative Leaders in Sustainable Food and Fiber Systems (Kim, Crutsinger, Connors, Yang) <i>Fostering leadership for underrepresented students and the critical role the agricultural system plays in the food and fiber industries through curricular activities</i>	USDA NIF	\$399,913
2023/2024	Principal Investigator Title: Analyzing Archival Lunch Tray Images to Document Plate-Waste of Meat and Non-Meat Entrées (Connors) <i>This is a descriptive study using qualitative methodology in a review of archived photographs and production records of school meals served.</i>	National Cattlemen's Beef Assoc.	\$20,245
2010/2012	Principal Investigator Title: Testing a Food Choice Innovation for Middle School Cafeterias (Connors, Kennon, Davenport) <i>This project identified opportunities in middle school cafeterias for guiding adolescents toward nutrition foods without restricting choice.</i> Publication: Connors, P. & Bednar, C. (2015) Middle school cafeteria food choice and waste prior to implementation of healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act changes in the National School Lunch Program. <i>Journal of Child Nutrition and Management.</i> 3(2), 12.	USDA ERS	\$29,592
2003-2004	Research Scholar/ Institute of Child Nutrition Title: Applied Research in Child Nutrition Programs Collaborate on research on school nutrition environments	University of Southern Mississippi	\$48,693

1997/1998 **Co-Principal Investigator** National Dairy Council, Inc. \$20,000
 Title: The Relationship Between Milk Handling Practices of School Foodservice Employees and Perceptions of Milk by Elementary School Children (Bednar, Connors)
 Publication: Connors, P., Bednar, C.& Klammer, S. (2001) Cafeteria factors that influence milk-drinking behaviors of elementary schoolchildren: A grounded theory approach. *Journal of Nutrition Education*. 33(1), 31-36.

INTERNAL GRANTS FUNDED

Begin/End	Position and Title	Agency	Award
2023/2023	Principal – Teaching Title: Developing Interactive Modules for Online Learning in Nutrition (Connors) Outcome: Module (1) on Plant Friendly Meals that featured application of concepts to personal food choices that engaged students in direct experience and prompted reflection on sustainable food sourcing and handling. ChatGPT Module (2) where students to write essays about topics in nutrition in health	UNT Libraries	\$4,000
2022/2023	Co-Principal – Research Title: Attributes of Transformative Leaders in Sustainable Food and Fiber Systems (Kim, Crutsinger, Connors, Yang)	UNT CMHT	\$2,000
2021/2021	Principal – OER Teaching Title: Nutrition for Consumers – An Online Handbook Outcome: Opensource Nutrition for Consumers at UNT Open Books https://openbooks.library.unt.edu/nutritionforconsumers/	UNT Libraries	\$7,500
2019/2019	Principal – Research/Sabbatical Title: SUNY-Oneonta Visiting Scholar Investigating Food Waste Publication: Connors, P. & Schuelke, W. (2022) Date labels and college student perception of milk drinkability. <i>Journal of Food Composition and Analysis</i> . 105. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfca.2021.104249	UNT Research and Innovation	\$2,500
2010/2011	Principal – Research Title: Collaborative Design of a Food Choice Innovation for Middle School	UNT Honors College	\$8,000
2009/2009	Principal – Teaching Title: The Green Table: Five Nutrition Science Food Labs on Nutrition, Health, and Sustainable Foods	UNT CLEAR	\$4,470
2005/2006	Principal – Research Title: Meeting State Standards for Food Served in Juvenile Detention Facilities	UNT Research Services	\$3,935

Uniform Vita and Biographical Data Sheet, Priscilla Connors, PhD

2004/2004	Principal – Teaching Learning Enhancement Grant: Blended Learning in Principles of Nutrition	UNT CLEAR	\$8,817
2002/2003	Principal – Research Training Foodservice Staff to Take the Calcium Initiative in Schools	UNT Research Services	\$2,500
2001/2001	Principal – Teaching Teaching with Technology – Distributed Learning	UNT CLEAR	\$4,600
2001/2001	Principal – Teaching Undergraduate Instructional Development Grant Video scripts for online learning modules	UNT CLEAR	\$11,181
2001/2001	Principal – Research Using Stages of Change Model to Develop Nutrition Education Modules for School Menu Writers	UNT Research Services	\$5,000
2000/2000	Principal – Teaching Teaching with Technology – Distributed Learning	UNT CLEAR	\$5,300
2000/2000	Principal – Research Enhanced Funded Research – Grant Writing for Child Nutrition Programs	UNT Research Services	\$6,980

PUBLICATIONS (Reverse Chronical Order)

- Connors, P.** (2024). College students observe waste of edible food & make recommendations. *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis*, 126. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfca.2023.105833>
- Connors, P.** & Schuelke, W. (2022). Date labels and college student perception of milk drinkability. *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis*, 105. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfca.2021.104249>
- Slaton, K.S., Kinley, T. R., Brandon, B. L. **Connors, P.** (2021). Best practices for targeted marketing for fashion entrepreneurs. *Optimization Journal of Research in Management*, 13(1), 1-16.
- Breakstone J., Smith, M. D., Ortega, T. E., Kerby, D. F., **Connors, P. L.**, Winberg, S. (2021). Lateral reading: College students learn to critically evaluate internet sources in an online course. *Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review*, 2(1). <https://doi.org/10.37016/mr-2020-56>
- Slaton, K.S., Kinley, T. R., Brandon, B. L. **Connors, P.** (2020). Popular advertising advice for fashion entrepreneurs: A summative content analysis. *Optimization Journal of Research in Management*, 12(2), 1-10.
- Landry, M. J., Olvany, J. M., Mueller, M. P., Chen, T., Ikeda, D., Sinclair, D., Schatz, L. E., **Connors, P. L.**, Valgenti, R. T. Challamel, G. A., Garner, C. D., Policastro, P. (2020). Faith in fat: A multisite examination of university students' perceptions of fat in the diet. *Nutrients*, 12(19), 2560. <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu12092560>

- McNamara, J., Sweetman, S., **Connors, P.**, Lofgran, I., Greene, G. (2020). Using interactive nutrition modules to increase critical thinking skills in college courses. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 52(4), 343-350. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2019.06.007>
- Turnwald, B., Perry, M., Policastro, P., Timmons, M. Bosso, C., **Connors, P.**, Valgenti, R. T., Pine, L., Challamel, G. A., Garner, C. D., Crum. A. (2019). Increasing vegetable intake by emphasizing tasty and enjoyable attributes: A randomized controlled multi-site intervention for taste focused labeling. *Journal of Psychological Science*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956797619872191>
- Connors, P.** (2019). Critical review: Adding physical activity to your life. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 51(2), 263.
- Connors, P.** (2017). Critical review: Breastfeeding uncovered. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*. 50(2), 211-212.
- Connors, P.** (2016). Critical review: Dietary guidelines 2015-2020. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 48(7), 518.
- Connors, P.**, Bednar, C. (2015). Middle school cafeteria food choice and waste prior to implementation of healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act changes in the National School Lunch Program *Journal of Child Nutrition & Management*, 3(2). <https://schoolnutrition.org/NewsPublications/JCNM/2015/Fall/>
- Connors, P.** (2013). Delivery style moderates study habits in online nutrition class. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 45, 171-175. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2012.04.006>
- Brown, J.S., Bednar, C., DiMarco, N. & **Connors, P.** (2012). Assessments of changes in school nutrition programs and the school environment as a result of following the Healthier School Challenge. *Journal of Child Nutrition & Management*, 36(1), 8-12.
- Connors, P. L.** (2008). Assessing written evidence of critical thinking in nutrition using an analytic rubric. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 40, 193-194. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2008.01.014>
- Connors, P. L.** & Simpson, D. F. (2004) Influence of menu planning strategies on the nutrient composition of Texas school lunches. *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis*, 17, 459-468. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jfca.2004.03.009>
- Connors, P.**, Rozell, S. (2004). Using a visual plate waste study to monitor menu performance. *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*, 104(1), 94-96.
- Connors, P.**, Bednar, C. (2002). Promoting a calcium initiative in school cafeterias. *The Journal of Child Nutrition & Management*, 26(1). <https://schoolnutrition.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Promoting-a-Calcium-Initiative-in-School-Cafeterias-Spring-2002.pdf>
- Connors, P.** (2002). Got cold? A look at safe handling procedures for milk in school cafeterias. *School Foodservice & Nutrition*, 56(3), 56-59.
- Connors, P.**, Bednar, C., & Klammer, S. (2001). Cafeteria factors that influence milk-drinking behaviors of elementary school children: A grounded theory approach. *The Journal of Nutrition Education*, 33(1), 31-36.

- Connors, P.** (2000). Functional foods: Make mine a six-pack of yogurt. *Nutrition in Complementary Care* 2(3), 3.
- Connors, P.,** Bednar, C., Imhran, V. & Czajka-Narins, D. (1999). Evaluation of milk handling practices in public elementary schools results in HACCP model development. *The Journal of Child Nutrition & Management*, 23(2), 101-105.
- Connors, P.,** Bednar, C., Imhran, V. & Czajka-Narins, D. (1999). Milk use and handling in elementary school child nutrition programs. *The Journal of Child Nutrition & Management*, 23(2), 96-100.
- Connors, P.** (1997). Know the coming challenges. *The National Society for Healthcare Foodservice Management Innovator*, 96(1), 23.
- Connors, P. &** Bednar, C. (1996). Joining a listserv. *Texas State Nutrition Council Newsletter*, 96(2), 3-5.

PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS ABSTRACTS (Reverse Chronical Order)

- Connors, P. &** Dronavalli, D. (2024). A review of meat/meat alternate components on archived school lunch images. *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*, 124(100), A66.
- Connors, P. &** Schuelke, W. (2022). Waste of edible food from a college student perspective. 42nd *National Nutrient Databank Conference Abstracts*,
https://www.nutrientdataconf.org/_files/ugd/757e14_4700ebbccfda4d20a813c80946a41fb0.pdf
- Connors, P. &** Schuelke, W. (2020). It's expired? Throw it out! Perceptions of date labels among young adults. 41st *National Nutrient Databank Conference Abstracts*,
https://cb233c728167.filesusr.com/ugd/0a50d8_59735788301b47c69228f2e398b87844.pdf
- Connors, P.** (2019). Guided inquiry-based learning and the date label/milk waste conundrum. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 51(7S), S79.
- E. Peal & **Connors, P.** (2018). The future of tap water - Will young adults invest? *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 50(7), S26. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2018.04.069>
- Connors, P.** (2018). I really should change my mind about these vegetables: A signature assignment with social responsibility in ind. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 50(7), S27.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2018.04.070>
- Vaquera, B. & **Connors, P.** (2018). Young adult perception of label claims and dietary variety: A short survey. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 50(7), S114.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2018.04.154>
- Stark, H., **Connors, P.,** Prybutok, V. (2018). Young adult ambivalence toward the revised nutrition facts label format. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 50(7), S115.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2018.04.155>
- Connors, P.** (2016). A reasoning exercise results in student food rules on the digital library. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 48(7), 60. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2016.04.087>
- Connors, P. L.,** Bednar, C. M., Davenport, B. A., Kennon, L. R. & Davis, R. E. (2011, September). Identifying opportunities for nudging fruit and fresh vegetable choices in middle school cafeterias. *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*, 111(9): A75.

Connors, P., Bednar, C. Wilcox, S. & Davis, R. (2011, July). Middle school innovation based on digital photography method of plate waste. *Journal of Child Nutrition & Management*, 35(2).

Connors, P., Greenleaf, C. A., Martin, S.B., & Petrie, T. A. (2010, September). Cardiovascular fitness of Texas middle school students and consumption of fruit, vegetable & dairy. *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*, 110(9): A107.

Connors, PL. Greenleaf, CA, Martin, SB, Petrie, TA. (2009, October). Health fitness and dietary behaviors of Texas middle school students. *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*, 109(9): S-A95. ADA Food and Nutrition Conference, Denver, CO.

Taylor, J., Crutsinger, C., Kim, H., **Connors, P.**, & Brandon, L. (2009, June). The impact of environmental attitudes on US students' Intention to use reusable shopping bags. (Oral presentation, International Conference of Consumer Sciences, Edinburgh, Scotland), pp.158-162.

PRESENTATIONS (Reverse Chronical Order)

Connors, P. (2024, September 25). *Integrating ChatGPT into learning modules*. UNT Teaching and Learning Forum. University of North Texas, Denton, TX, USA.

Connors, P., Archibold, A., Briggs, M. & Heap, T. (2024, July 2). *Students use ChatGPT to generate plant-based meal recommendations in an introductory nutrition class*. Conference poster session. American Nutrition Society, Chicago IL, USA.

Connors, P. (2024, March 27). *Rethinking food loss and waste in a circular economy*. Symposium lecture. College of Merchandising, Hospitality and Tourism. Denton, TX, USA.

Ijose, P. & **Connors, P.** (2024, Jan. 4). *Designing messages that reduce food waste in dining halls: A literature review*. [Conference poster session]. 29th Annual Graduate Education and Graduate Student Conference in Hospitality and Tourism. Chapman School of Hospitality & Tourism Management. Florida International University, Miami, FL, USA.

Connors, P. (2023, Sept. 25). *Plant based nutrition & ChatGPT in an online nutrition class* [Workshop lecture]. AI Workshop for College Information Leaders, UNT College of Information, Denton, TX, USA.

Connors, P. & Blackstone N. T. (2023, Apr. 20). *Working Group 2: Impact of climate environment change on dietary patterns, attitudes, beliefs, and choices* [Panel member]. ADVANTAGE (Agriculture and Diet: Value Added for Nutrition, Translation and Adaptation in a Global Ecology). National Institute of Health - Eunice Kennedy Schriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Washington DC.

Connors, P. (2023, Apr. 14). *Navigating the new open*. 2023 UNT/TXST Open Access Symposium. [Symposium lecture]. University of North Texas Libraries. Denton, TX, USA.

Connors, P. (2022, Oct. 5). *College students observe food waste* [Conference poster session]. Annual Meeting and Conference. Menus of Change University Research Collaborative. University of North Texas, Denton, TX USA.

- Connors, P.** & Archibold, A. (2022, June 4). *Virtual reality and date label education in dollar general stores* [Workshop poster session]. Research Workshop on Food Access at Dollar General Stores and Its Implication for Public Health. Tufts University and USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Boston, MA USA.
- Connors, P.** & Schuelke, W. (2022, May 16). *Waste of edible food from a college student perspective* [Conference poster session]. 42nd National Nutrient Databank Conference: Where We've Been and How We are Evolving Globally. Virtual, <https://www.nutrientdataconf.org/conference>
- Connors, P.** (2022, Mar. 8). *Open access presentation - nutrition for consumers* [Symposium lecture]. 2022 Open Access Symposium. University of North Texas Libraries. Denton, TX USA.
- Connors, P.** & Schuelke, W. (2020, Nov. 18). *It's expired? Throw it out! Perceptions of Date Labels Among Young Adults* [Conference poster session]. 41st National Nutrient Databank Conference: 2020 Vision for Food Composition Data: Promoting Public Health Worldwide (virtual). <https://www.nutrientdataconf.org/>
- Connors, P.** (2020, Oct. 19). *Open pedagogy equity & inclusive teaching*. International Open Access Week [Panel member]. [(virtual). <http://www.openaccessweek.org/page/about>
- Connors, P.** (2019, July 30). *Guided inquiry-based learning and the date label/milk waste conundrum* [Conference poster session]. Nutrition Education: Rooted in Food. Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior Conference. Orlando FL. USA.
- Connors, P.** (2018, July 25). *Dietary analysis exercise fosters intercultural awareness among college students* [Conference poster session]. Advancing Food and Nutrition Databases Through Partnerships and Technology. National Nutrient Databank Conference. Minneapolis, MN. USA.
- Peal, E. & **Connors, P.** (2018, July 24). *The future of tap water - Will young adults invest* [Conference poster session]? Optimizing Impact: Supporting Food Systems with Nutrition Education. Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior Conference. Minneapolis, MN. USA.
- Vaquera, B. & **Connors, P.** (2018, July 24). *Young adult perception of label claims and dietary variety: A short survey structured from essay themes* [Conference poster session]. Optimizing Impact: Supporting Food Systems with Nutrition Education. Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior Conference. Minneapolis, MN. USA.
- Stark, H. & **Connors, P.** (2018, July 24). *Young adult ambivalence toward the revised nutrition facts label. A short survey structured from essay themes* [Conference poster session]. Optimizing Impact: Supporting Food Systems with Nutrition Education. Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior Conference. Minneapolis, MN. USA.
- Greene, G., White, J., **Connors, P.** & Peterson, K. (2017, July 22). July) *Organic food debate: Fostering critical thinking in the higher education classroom* [Conference paper presentation]. Higher Education Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Plenary Presentation. Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior, Annual Conference. Washington DC. USA.
- Guillory, D. & **Connors, P.** (2017, Jan. 6). *Crowd sourcing perceptions of dining hall waste* [Conference paper presentation]. 22nd Graduate Education & Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality & Tourism. Conrad N. Hilton College of Hotel & Restaurant Management, University of Houston. Houston, TX USA.

Connors, P., Strzelecka M., Strubel, J. (2017, January) *Gender and importance of consuming sustainably produced food* [Conference paper presentation]. Thirteenth International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Jimenez-Chavez, R. & **Connors, P.** (2016, Aug. 16). *The Influence of organic labeling and price on restaurant menu* [Conference poster session]. Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior Annual Conference. San Diego, CA. USA.

Connors, P. (2016, Aug. 16). *A reasoning exercise results in student food rules on the digital library* [Conference poster session]. Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior Annual Conference. San Diego, CA. USA.

Connors, P. & Pamidimukkala, S. (2016, July 13). *I'm real, you're real, we're all real! Social presence and connecting in online learning* [Conference paper presentation]. International BbWorld 2016 Conference. Blackboard. Inc. Las Vegas, NV. USA.

Strzelecka, M., Nisbett, G. & **Connors, P.** (2015, Jan.) *Perceived importance of food quality and sustainable food practices among millennials* [Conference paper presentation]. Tenth International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability. On Sustainability. Copenhagen DK.

Kennon, L. & **Connors, P.** (2014, June). *The impact of visual and video social media on consumer captured food safety failures in commercial restaurants* [Conference poster session]. American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences 105th Annual Conference & Expo. St. Louis, MO. USA.

Afflerbach AM & **Connors, PL.** (2014, April) *College students apply nutrition facts in a series of eat healthy lab exercises* [Conference poster session]. Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics 2014 Food & Nutrition Conference and Exhibition San Antonio, TX.

Connors, P., Bednar, C., Kennon L., Davenport B. & Sandifer K. (2013, Oct.). *An Infographic communicates food choices and waste in Texas middle schools* [Conference poster session]. Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics Conference & Expo (FNCE). Houston, TX USA.

Kennon, L., **Connors, P.** & Strzelecka, M. (2013, July). *Food choice and attitude toward sustainable food production practices among college students* [Conference poster session]. 2013 Annual ICHRIE Summer Conference, St. Louis, MO. USA.

Connors, P. & Afflerbach A. (2013, April). *Familiarizing students with the U.S. nutrient database for standard reference through online exercises* [Conference poster session]. National Nutrient Databank Conference, Boston, MA. USA.

Connors, P. Duryea, D, Spaulding, Z, & Wang, M. (2010, July) Nutrition science labs incorporate sustainability theme. [Conference poster session] 34thNational Nutrient Databank Conference, Grand Forks, ND.

<http://www.nutrientdataconf.org/PastConf/Conf21-33.html>

- Connors, P.**, Spears, D, Angelo D. (2009, October). Student perception of podcast utility and quality in an online class [Conferences paper presentation]. 15th Sloan-C International Conference on Online Learning, Orlando, FL.
<http://www.sloanconsortium.org/aln/posters>.
- Connors, P.** (2009, April). Designing an online class with self-regulatory learning in mind [conference poster session]. US Distance Learning Association National Conference. St. Louis, MO.
- Connors, P.** (2008, May). An ethnographic report on the collaborative design of an interface for student nutrient database users [Conference poster session]. 32nd National Nutrient Databank Conference, Ottawa, Canada.
- Connors, P.** & Lopes, R. (2008, Sept.). Factors influencing student perception of instructor communication in an Internet nutrition class [Conference paper presentation]. International Congress of Dietetics, Yokohama, Japan.
- Connors, P.** (2007, July). Nutrition students write a reasoned statement as an exercise in critical thinking. [Conference poster session]. International Social Science Conference. Granada, Spain. Retrieved on Nov. 6, 2007 from http://i07.cgpublisher.com/proposals/910/index_html
- Connors, P.** (2006, Sept.). Nutrient databases: When the end-user is not a scientist [Conference poster session]. 30th US National Nutrient Databank Conference, Honolulu HA.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jada.2006.05.248>
- Connors, P.** & Kennon, L. (2006). Online testing: fair or foul [Conference poster presentation]? WebCT !MPACT 2006, 8th Annual WebCT User Conference Chicago, IL.
<http://webct.confex.com/webct/2006/techprogram/P1357.HTM>
- Connors, P.**, Josiam, B. & Chang, P. (2005). Evaluating food and beverage consumption of middle school children using meal components and period of day [Conference poster session]. School Nutrition Association, Baltimore, MD. 2005 Child Nutrition Showcase Abstract, The Journal of Child Nutrition and Management, 2, 2005 at
<http://docs.schoolnutrition.org/newsroom/jcnm/05fall/abstracts.asp>
- Connors, P.** & Sarkaria, G. (2004). Accommodating colorblindness in a large enrollment Internet class [Conference poster session]. I-CHIRE Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Josiam, B., **Connors, P.**, Simons, C., & Juan S. (2004). Perceptions of a Student-run restaurant in an American campus [Conference poster session]. 2nd Asia-Pacific CHRIE Conference and 6th Biennial Conference on Tourism in Asia, Phuket, Thailand.
<http://crtr.tamu.edu/conferenceabstracts.cfm?abstractid=401>.
- Connors, P.** & Simpson, D. (2003). Fat and Sodium in Texas school lunches and implications for promoting healthy meals [Conference paper presentation]. International Congress of Dietetics.
http://www.internationaldietetics.org/frm_Abstract/frm_Abstract.asp?fn=view&id=298

- Connors, P.,** Whitehead T. & Simpson, D. (2003). Menu planning system and fat content of lunches served at Texas private schools and residential childcare institutions [Conference poster session]. American School Food Service Association Annual National Conference, Reno, NE. <http://www.asfsa.org/childnutrition/jcnm/03fall/related/>
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UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Connors, P. (2024-2025) Faculty Representative, UNT Dining Services FoodWISE Project, Denton, TX
As Data Collection Lead on MCURC FoodWISE project (2024-2025) I organized a team of undergraduate and graduate students who assist UNT Dining Services in a study of employee attitudes toward reducing food waste during production. During fall and spring semesters we are doing field work in dining halls to observe practices, conduct surveys, and interview staff.

Connors, P. (2021-2025) Fellow, UNT Collaborate for Online Faculty Fellows. Denton, TX
Faculty Fellows in the UNT Digital Research Centre play a crucial role in research and development activities. They are the principal investigators of the research projects conducted in the Centre. The purpose of our research and development activities in the Centre is to inform, improve, and innovate digital learning and teaching practices, in both physical and virtual spaces.

Connors, P. (2023-2024) Faculty Representative, UNT AI Steering Committee, Denton, TX
The infusion of artificial intelligence (AI) in higher education is not just a luxury, but a necessity. The University of North Texas stands at the forefront of preparing society for the challenges and opportunities of a technologically advanced future. As such, there is an imperative need to thoughtfully and responsibly incorporate AI in various dimensions of the higher education landscape. The UNT AI Steering Committee (UASC) will guide, supervise, and foster AI initiatives, with a particular focus on generative AI, across the institution while also ensuring that all members understand the ethics and compliance surrounding these new technologies.

PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Connors, P. (2023-2024) Working Group 2 Member, ADVANTAGE (Agriculture and Diet: Value Added for Nutrition, Translation and Adaptation in a Global Ecology). NICHD
Efforts to promote health through improved diet and nutrition require an understanding of the nutritional ecology that accounts for the intersection of agriculture, food systems, health, disease, and a changing environment across the life span. Implications of CEC (Climate Environmental Change) on priority health outcomes.

Connors, P. (2016-2025) As an active member of Menus of Change University Research Collaborative (MCURC) I have participated in campus-based research projects that have resulted in peer-review publications, advances in serving sustainable meals on college campuses, and served as Research Area Chair for the 2022 MCURC international meeting held in Denton, TX.

MCURC is an international working group of leading scholars, foodservice business leaders, and executive chefs from invited colleges and universities who are accelerating efforts to move consumers toward healthier, more sustainable plant-forward diets. MCURC's vision is to collaborate on research and education in support of culinary-centric, evidence-based food systems innovation within and beyond universities.

Connors, P. (2024) Food Justice for Kids Newman's Own Foundation. I served on the Application Review Committee that selected award finalists from 200 applicants.

As a grant reviewer I evaluated proposals for the Food Justice for Kids Prize, which awards up to 10 grants in the two priority areas: Indigenous Food Justice and Nutrition Education and School Food. The goal is to fund initiatives that positively impact youth through food justice. Reviewers assess proposals based on a rubric that considers factors including alignment, evidence of impact, innovative approach, community engagement, and ease of implementation